

MONDAY, APRIL 25, 1898.

DAILY, per Honth 50 50 DAILY, per Year a eq BUNDAY, per Year..... 9 00
DAILY AND SUNDAY, per Year...... 8 00 DAILY AND SUNDAY, per Month To Fortage to fereign countries added. THE BUX, New York City.

PARIS-Elosque No. 12, near Grand Hotel, and que No. 10, Boulevard des Capucines. If our friends who favor us with manuscripts fo

publication wish to have rejected articles returned they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose

The Cabinet.

The first report or rumor of further changes in the Cabinet brings down upon the President of the United States a deluge of advice, no doubt well meant but certainly superfluous.

The case of the Secretary of State is the object of much solicitude on the part of the volunteer reorganizers of the Cabinet.

If there is anything in the multitude of affairs now pressing upon the President which should be left to his unaided wisdom, at least until he asks advice, it is the matter of the selection of his own advisers. That is peculiarly his own business. He is guite competent to attend to it,

Commutation for Stamp Taxes.

In the published reports of the new revenue bill, which was introduced in the House of Representatives on Saturday, we find no provision for commuting any of the stamp taxes which it imposes. Every check, every telegraphic despatch, every bond, and every other instrument or document liable to the tax, must have the stamp for it actually affixed and cancelled.

How great and vexatious an amount of labor will thus be imposed upon our citizens seems never to have occurred to the committee which prepared the bill. The stamp of 2 cents each on checks, in force during the late war, produced, in some years, nearly \$3,000,000 a year, so that 150,000,000 separate stamps were used in collecting it. The tax on telegraphic messages now proposed is 1 cent on 25 cent messages and 2 cents for messages costing more than 25 cents. The Western Union Telegraph Company alone collects from the public \$22,000,000 yearly for telegraphic service, which, at an average of 50 cents for each message, makes 44,-000,000 messages, every one of which will have to be stamped separately. The New York Central Railroad Company is about to issue 100,000 mortgage bonds and 120,000 debentures, the Lake Shore Railway Company 50,000 mortgage bonds, the Chicago and Rock Island, the Chicago and Northwestern 100,000 more, each of which will require the stamp of \$1, provided for in the bill. As for the stock certificates, contracts, deeds, policies of insurance, and other instruments affected by the bill, their number is not to be computed.

Great Britain, which has had a long and valuable experience in taxation, provides that certain stamp taxes may be commuted by the payment of a lump sum, called a composition. Thus, a municipal corporation, about to issue bonds, arranges with the Stamp Office to commute the stamp tax for the whole amount at once, and thus escapes the annoyance of affixing and cancelling a separate stamp on each bond. A similar plan ought to be adopted here. The Government would lose nothing by it, and would save a great deal, while the citizen would be spared much trouble. Banks could pay the check stamp and collect it from the makers of the checks. Railroad corporations would pay no less if they paid \$100,000 at once upon a \$100,000,000 bond issue than if they id for each \$1,000 bond \$1 separately. The principle might be extended in the same way to checks, to telegraphic messages and to all other papers and instruments made by responsible corporations. Stamp taxes are vexatious at best, and they should be made as little so as possible,

The Rights of Neutrals.

It is natural that neutral maritime nations should be somewhat concerned as to how their carrying trade will be affected by the war between the United States and Spain, since neither of these two countries is bound by the famous Declaration of Paris, which was drawn up with reference to these rights.

Practically, however, there has never been much ground for anxiety regarding the polley of the United States. Our country has from its foundation been one of the most conspicuous and advanced of the champions of neutral rights as against belligerents. Shortly after our Government was founded the French revolution broke out, and thereafter, until the downfall of Napoleon, Europe was almost constantly embroiled in war. Thus during the first quarter of a century of our Government's existence its maritime rights as a neutral became of high importance, and the strong ground it then took in favor of such rights has never been abandoned. Accordingly it has been obvious that our uniform policy for a century would make us respect to the utmost the rights of neutrals during our coming attitude as a belligerent, and further that Spain would be forced to do the same thing from the desire not to offend her European neighbors in her hard task.

But Secretary SHERMAN has not been natisfied to leave the matter so. He has gone further, and has announced that it is the policy of our country to accept the articles of the Declaration of Paris for the present war with Spain. He does not, indeed, mention that agreement of April 16, 1856, by same; but we need only put side by side the four statements of his proclamation, issued on Wednesday, and the four of the international declaration of forty-two years ago, to see that they are wirtually identical.

The Paris declaration begins by saying that "privateering is and remains abollahed," and Secretary SARRMAN thinks that "it will be the policy of this Goverament not to resort to privateering" during the war with Spain. Our rights to privateer are reserved for the future, but practically neutrals may feel assured that we shall not assert them now. Next, the Declaration of Paris is that "the neutral flag covers enemy's goods, with the exception of contraband of war,' and this our Department of State repeats without the change of a letter. Thirdly, the declaration of 1856 holds that neutral goods, except contraband of war, are not liable t capture and confiscation under the enemy's flag, and that is also what Mr. SHERMAN announces. Finally, the Paris declaration that "blockades, in order to be binding, must be effective," is adopted in exact words by our State Department.

But all this is no new ground for us. We have repeatedly been found acting on the principles we proclaim now. It is true that we have always held that a belligerent has the right, if he chooses to exercise it, and in the absence of an agreement to the contrary, to take an enemy's goods from a neutral ship on the high seas. We have also insisted and still insist on the right to privateer, and Congress might even exercise it in this war. On the other hand, we have held that neutral goods do not become subject to capture merely from being found on a belligerent's ship. When we were asked to accede to the Declaration of Paris, our refusal was based not on the ground that it went too far in the protection of neutral property, but that it did not go far enough Secretary Marcy's proposal, in which the other powers refused to concur, exempted private property altogether from capture at sea, and when this was not accepted we did not adhere to the other agreements relating to neutral goods and flags.

That proposed amendment of total immu nity for private property was renewed by Secretary SEWARD at the outbreak of the civil war, but Great Britain and France refused, wishing to make special provisions regarding that war. Then Mr. SEWARD notified our representatives abroad that we would act in accordance with the tenets of the Declaration of Paris any-Troops for the Field. way, except the one against privateer ing, and practically we did not violate that. Our navy received its instructions accordingly, and it is said that no case occurred of the condemnation as prize of any goods under the second and third the real conditions. articles of the Declaration of Paris, touch-

affirmed since the civil war in treaties with various countries. It remains to be noted that the statement of Secretary SHERMAN in regard to privateering seems to have been only prefatory to his specific and numbered announcements as to the three remaining points. This was necessary, because Congress has the power, under the Constitution, to grant letters of marque and reprisal, and could do so, of course, in the present war with Spain. In 1863 Congress passed a law authorising the President to issue letters of marque and reprisal, but I was never

ing an enemy's goods under a neutral flag

or neutral goods under an enemy's flag. As

to the immunity of an enemy's goods under

a neutral flag our views have been re-

Neutral nations cannot fail, we think, to be gratified by our voluntary adhesion to the principles of the Declaration of Paris. while Spain, which, like our own Jountry, was not a co-signatory of that agreement, has now found her hand forced regarding that important question.

A Party of Sociologists.

Under the guidance of a Professor in Yale University, a queer expedition of discovery discovered this town last week. The exploring expedition consisted of thirty Yale 'theologues," who are also students of that branch of science or sciolistics to which the mongrel name "sociology" has been given.

In the American colleges at present 'sociology" seems not to mean the science of social phenomena in general, but a cursory inquiry into and sentimental generalization about the condition of "the poor." From an American professor of "sociology we do not expect facts so much as hysterical rhetoric. He takes a bird's-eye view of "the slums," or he goes and lives among them for a time, much wondered at and scorned by the natives. Then he produces his magazine article, essay, or book. He is usually an imperfect literary character, hopelessly unscientific, but firmly persuaded of the profundity of his researches and the accuracy of his conclusions. He may be compared as to his scientific pretensions to an honest chiromancer, astrologer, or dream book writer. He is able to do more harm than those other maginative artista because he gives a good deal of his labor and vocabulary to the task of making "the poor" believe that they are "wronged" somehow or other by "the rich." He has strayed away from "sociology" proper, and has become a sentimental slummer. As a writer he is a sentimental slusher.

In this description we don't have in mind the head of the Yale Divinity School exploring party and sociological slumming expedition, for we are sorry not to have known before last week his undoubtedly venerable name. The route followed by his young LIVINGSTONES and STANLEYS, however, seems to show that his notion of "social economics," whatever that may be, is that of the sentimental alummers.

Here were thirty meek and wondering divinity students, of the type which New Haven knows so well, worthy and innocent young men, whom a heartless undergraduate once described as "combining all the virtues with the habit of playing tennis in tall hats and patent leather shoes." The thirty came, like Lord BATEMAN, strange countries for to see. But Lord BATEMAN was not a sociologist. He would not have thought it necessary to visit the Mills Hotel in Bleecker street. Thither the thirty were taken, and there they alept Thursday night, probably with a delightful sense of having sunk a deep shaft into the nether world. The next morning they "jotted down their impressions," We wonder if the Hon. GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN addressed the discoverers. He could have told them that the Mills is the Waldorf-Astoria of cheap hotels, and no proper point for beginning a journey into sentimental social economics. The important thing to remember, however, is that the discoverers jotted down their impressions. Expect thirty, or, counting the professor in command, thirty-one magazine articles, essays, and books on "The Seamy Side of New York; or Life Among the Lowly." By interviewing Mr. CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW, one of the strugglers who have dined at the Mills Hotel, the thirty might have found some anecdotes to add to their memoranda.

From Bleecker street the explorers went to the University Settlement and the College Settlement, institutions replete with sociology and sociologists. It would have saved car fare to have taken them to Good Government Club C and to the reform boudoirs of the Citizens' Union. Those lighthouses of thought have sociology to burn. Doubtless the names of the thirty are to be found on the Low petitions, if those priceless documents have been preserved. At any rate we must decline to believe that the Mills Hotel is more educational and sociological than Good Government Club C. What is cheap soup by the side of free reform and plenty of it?

At noon on Friday the explorers called on the Mayor. They must have surprised him. The local pathfinder detailed to accompany the expandion asked the flavor "to address the students on the subject of the public in lituitions." Either on account

of an unfortunate bias against sociology or because he was busy, the Mayor unfeelingly informed the delegation that he was not there to lecture, but to administer the affairs of his office." This is a short-sighted view. If the sociologist candidate for Mayor had been elected last November, he would have been only too happy to lecture on sociology to visiting sociologists.

Later in the day the explorers visited Hartley House in West Forty-sixth street, and in the evening they went to a "aymposium of charity workers." Among their other wanderings Friday or Saturday was an incursion into the Elizabeth street police station and into the Chinese quarter, and a walk in East Broadway. Apparently the sociologists regarded East Broadway as a mysterious region, inhabited by a savage race. Probably East Broadway regarded them as some new ambulatory sort of a Good Government Club.

We hope that the excellent young the ologians from New Haven will not make their personally conducted tour the subject of too much literature or be inspired by it to devote themselves to lives of sociology. The temptation is great. Sentimental so ciology appears to be fascinating to its students and professors. It is easy work, for one thing, and it has a philanthropic complexion that attracts ingenuous youth, But the profession is getting crowded.

A letter from a citizen, elsewhere published, makes with regard to the raising of volunteer troops for the war suggestions which might be well enough if they were not based on a total misunderstanding of

He assumes that the war will be short but that is a wholly unsafe and unjustifiable assumption. The duration of the war cannot be foreseen. If Congress had been as sure as he is that an easy victory for the American arms will come speedily, it would not have provided for the calling out of a large volunteer force, for the additional troops would be needless, more especially as it is likely to be months before they are fully trained for service. Our friend "believes" one way, but evidently the President is of a different mind. He would not call for volunteers if he was not convinced that as a measure of safety we must get ready for the possible contingency of a war much longer than the brief conflict our correspondent expects so confidently. Our friend is wrong in his "belief" that

the National Guard will fill the requisition of 100,000 men, drilled, disciplined men, ready for immediate field duty." The National Guard, as every man of military judgment and experience knows, will be ready for field service only after months of training at Chickamauga or some other camp. If our friend reads the history of the war of 1812, the Mexican war, and the civil war, he will find that this judgment is supported by the experience with the militia in them all. Gen. Scott spent five or six months in getting his troops ready for the Mexican war. After Bull Run we had to stop long In order to create an army. We must be sure before we go ahead. The way to make a war short is to go into it prepared abundantly for a long war.

Our friend's final suggestion that men should be enlisted "provisionally" for nine months and drilled during that time in the vacated National Guard armories, so that they might be ready for volunteering at the end of that time if they should chance to be needed, is not valuable practically. If enlistments are not for the war, and its duration is prolonged, there may come a time when it will be practically impossible to get volunteers. The President is wise in fixing the term of enlistment so long as two years, slight as is the probability that the war will continue during more than a half of that period, even if it is not over in a few months. Any provisional enlistments would be totally unmilitary. Drilling in armories can perfect men in the school of the soldier, but they must be sent into camp and dissociated wholly from civil life and its ties before they can be made into soldiers fit for efficient service on the field of war.

Our Loving Friend in London.

Those Americans who read the Saturday Review are familiar with the tone of accurate information and admirable temper which distinguishes all its discussions of our affairs. Here we have it again in an article of fine discernment entitled, "America, the Bully."

President McKINLEY is a "feeble" creature who "ostentatiously washes his hands of the blood that is to be shed." The present war is "based solely on the fact that Spain has failed, during two years, in reducing Cuban insurgents, owing to their being liberally supplied with money and munitions of war from the United States." The fighting in Cuba "has been financed and engineered from American soil for the purpose of enriching a New York syndicate, who, having got hold of a big thing in Cuban real estate, are operating for a rise." And this country "may find before the summer is out that in starting a war of aggression against Spain she has been guilty not only of a crime against humanity, but also of a stupendous national blunder."

It seems almost ungrateful to point out a minor error or two in an article like America, the Bully"; but the Saturday Review ought to be made aware that Mr. GODEIN of the Evening Post has never seen convicted and sentenced for veracity in the first degree, and that Mr. Joseph PULITZER, whom it describes as "that most patriotic of Polish Jews," is a Magyar,

The Georgia Populists have held one State convention this spring, and they are going to hold another in May. The calling of the second convention is attributed by persons unfamiliar with Populist habits to the regrettable refusal of the Hon, Tom WATSON, the cele historian of France, to let his bronze poll be the pillar of fire for the faithful. Mistake. The Georgia Populista, and all other Populists in good and regular standing, hold State conventions as often as possible, and never less frequently than once a month. They find the practice stimulating to the vocal circulation, even if somewhat injurious to the crops, but the worse the crops the better for Populism. When the Populist mil-lennium comes there will be two State conventions a day and one in the evening in ever;

Loud explosions of emotion in the editorial shrine of our esteemed contemporary, the Springfield Union. "The question as to the right way for men to part their hair," cries that esteemed contemporary, "is one that bids fair to become a vital one within the next few years, and may eventually become a potent force in politics." Perhaps there is in these words the utterance of a personal grief or misfor-tune, the story of a heart broken on account of hair. We have not heard that the parting of the hair has been a municipal question in Springfield, but it well may be if the windtelvenian of the Union is carried

good purpose," snaris the sufferer. "by calling attention to the idlocy of the practice." The inalismable right of an American citises to part his hair where he pleases, provided he has hair to part, will scarcely be denied. Several hundreds of thousands, perhaps several millions, of nen choose to part their hair in or about the middle. Why is the practice idioxic? It is painful to speak of this Springfield case, but it seems clear that the hated and successful rival

parts his hair in the "idiotic" fashion

Some casulsts on the Continent seem to be greatly distressed by the fact that the war with Spain began when it began. Great Britain is not in doubt. She asserts that the war began the moment that Gen. WOODFORD was dismissed. She declares her neutrality, and gives Admiral Dawky notice to leave Hong Kong with his fleet. Other nations, however ill disposed towards the United States at present, will have to follow the example of Great Britain, and Portugal will wave the Spanish fleet away from the convenient shelter of the Cape Verde Islands. The course of Great Britain in the matter is not only straightforward, but it is distinctly and materially friendly to the United States, and it will be so regarded by all Ameri-

Nothing has been heard for two weeks from the Audient and Honorable Artillery Company. Ar these brave men making their preparations in ellence with the idea of taking Spain unawares? Or did they depart for the front unnesteed?—Previdence

Not with bayonets and barkers do ther fight, but they stand on guard at Parker's, day and night. Boils their martial madness who ping, as the corks are wildly popping; steady, steady, without stopping, stand they on that glorious guard. Boston, eager and expectant, sees them at their task humectant, those old heroes, seamed and scarred. And a grateful city raises hymns and carel of their praises, halling stark BELLONA's dalules: "O, A. and H. A. C., renowned on land and sea, come, bid the foe to fice! With the corkscrow and the fork, make Thirst and Famine stalk, and fight while you can walk! Through glass, and put 'em down-en masse!'

In the Lafavette Avenue Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn yesterday morning the Rev. DAVID GREGG preached an old-fashioned, patriotic, stirring war sermon, such, in fire and fervor, as the volunteers in '61 heard from the pulpit the Sunday before they left for the front. There was applause, not irreverent or forgetful of the proprieties of the place and time, but exressing deep and sincers love of country After the close of the sermon a member of the church made some crank or Godkinite anti-Cuban remarks, and was shouted down for his pains. Then Mr. Justice Goodkich of the Abpeliate Division of the Supreme Court, who had already congratulated the pastor on his sermon, called for three cheers for the flag, and they were given with a will. A Justice of the Supreme Court doesn't often lead the cheering for the flag in a church, but in these days of aroused and irresistible patriotism, it seems the most natural thing in the world that he should. Clergyman and congregation, Judge and jury, all who are fit to be Americans, are showing their Amer

Arrived, under protest yesterday, Span ish steamers Miguel Jover and Catalina, fron the Spanish merchant marine to the United

Our esteemed Tennessee contemporary, the Jackson Whig, offers this able platform to a discriminating public: "Gravelling our roads.

Stock and poultry raising, First-class country schools."

That's the talk. Not even the initiative and referendum, the most sublime of Populist mysteries, can do as much for Tennessee as the carrying out of the Jackson programme will do. Bos Taylor and his Democratic brethren, chasing railroad corporations and braying at the Federal Courts, would put money in the pockets of Tennessee by checking their fury and walking quietly and industriously in the path traced by the Jackson Whig.

The Hon. JOSEPH D. SAYERS of the Ninth Congress district of Texas wants the Democratic nomination for Governor of that State, and has issued an address to the people. One passage in the manifesto is curious as showing the rigid Democratic orthodoxy professed by Mr. SAYERS "I do not hesitate to declare, with all possible emphasis," he writes, "that ever since its adoption I have been, and am now, in cies enunciated in the platform promulgated by the National Democratic Convention of 1996." This shows a docile spirit. Just as soon as Mr. SAYERS found out what the Chicago platform was, he found that he believed it all. If there had been more of it, he would have found that he believed that, too. At the exact moment, whether Washington time or Bastrop, when he read the platform, he be-lieved it all. It is refreshing to find a belief and an obedience so chronologically conscientious,

The Alexandria Gazette is happy because income tax bills have been introduced into Congress, and affirms that "such a tax would be the best that could possibly be laid, as it would be paid only by those who could well afford to do so, and as by such a tax, that on the necessaries of the poor would not have to be raised."
Why should "the poor" pay any taxes! Why shouldn't all the additional taxation necessary for war purposes be borne by the plutocrats They can afford it. What are they for! But care must be taken not to make them so poor that they cannot be denounced as children the Money Devil.

Only the books that we buy and own enter

A beautiful, affecting sentiment, although we cannot find that it applies to the Directory. Still, most persons resolutely avoid buying the Directory, preferring to consult that thrilling work in some drug store, into the life of which it has truly entered. Then there is a large class of persons who own books without buying them. Do the book borrowers, the unreturning brave, find that their books don't enter truly into their lives! Is it not more probable that they hug themselves in joy as they look at their easily acquired treasures !

The Hon. WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON of Boston is excited, as usual. He is furiously bellicose in behalf of peace. In a letter to the Boston Advertiser he rages thus in defence of the Godkinian doctrine:

"I believe and declars that the pending war is un necessary and unrighteous, as much after as before the beginning of hostilities. Does a lie become a truth because a reckless and excited Congressional tioned President? Are the verities altered thereby And, for 'the guilt of treason,' what have the ponal-ties been in the past that should affright one in the present? The chief distinction of the General our soldiers are to follow to their slaughter is that he was not only a traitor to his country, but to liberty. The treason of 1801 is a precious possession in 1898.
"I spurn the current philosophy that justifies the most pungent criticism against a pending wrong, and, at its consummation, shouts blindly with the

morals and an abdication of conscience." Patriotism seems to infuriate Mr. GARRISON nearly as much as football did. He needs sedatives and a straitjacket.

It should not be forgotten in the press of other matter that the Hon, Sol Stan has just been reslected Mayor of Deadwood, S. D. are unable to have absolute confidence in the assertion made by the Minneagolis Tribunc that the Hon. Sol. STAR "has been Mayor of Deadwood since the beginning of the Christian era or thereabouts," but of his popularity and power there can be no doubt. If South Daketa had had the love of solar-lunar statesmanship Syan would now have the post so imperfectly and absurdly compled by the Hon. Richard FRANKLIN PERTURNAL.

COAL AS CONTRABAND OF WAR.

The General Interpretation Paverable to Us and Unfaverable to Spain. THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Str. I see by THE SUN of April 22 that Mr. Balfour, in the House of Commons, replying to a question of Michael Davitt, said "that the Government could not lay it down as a principle that coal was contraband of war, because it was an indis-pensable portion of the fighting equipment of modern warships. He had no doubt that coal rould very frequently be contraband of war, but it should not be so understood under all cir-".mstances."

This statement, taken in connection with the previous reports that the British Government and instructed the colonial suthorities in the West Indies not to allow the sale of coal to the spanish agents, seems to indicate that Great Britain will enforce the dectrine that it has always maintained, and that is founded on sound principles, namely, that the status of an article which may be innocent or noxious according to the use to which it is put is determined by the circumstances attending its shipment. When it is presumably to be used for belligerent purposes t is contraband, but when the presumption is in favor of its use for commercial or industrial purposes it is not contraband.

In the present case, where Spain will have an imperative need for coal for the warships she may send to the West Indies to fight the United States, to furnish it to her agents would be as nuch a breach of neutrality as to furnish them

with cannon and gunpowder.
One of the grounds upon which the United States claimed indemnity of England for our ases by the Confederate cruisers in our civil war was that she had allowed them to supply themselves with coal for the purpose of cruising against our commerce. And although the award of the Geneva tribunal does not in terms hold England responsible for the damages inflicted by these cruisers solely in consequence of these upplies, yet from the opinions of the arbitrators it seems that this was one element of con sideration in making up their verdict, One of them, Count Sclopis, said:

I will not say that the simple fact of having al to enable a vessel to reach the nearest port of its country constitutes in itself a sufficient grievance to eall for an indemnity. But if an excessive supply of soal is connected with other circumstances which show that it was used as a veritable res hostillithere is an infraction of the second article of the troaty.

Great Britain evidently does not propose to give us any such ground of complaint in our present war with Spain. Chancellor Kent, in his commentaries, discus

sing the subject of contraband, remarks: It is the usus bellief which determines an article o be contraband, and as articles come into use as implements of war which were before innocent, there

and shift from time to time, the law of nations shifts with them, not indeed by the change of principles but by the change in the application of them to nev cases, and in order to meet the varying invention This is especially true of coal, and Kent may

have had it in mind when he wrote. Mr. Hall, in his treatise on international law, says:

Coal, owing to the lateness of the date at which it has become of importance in war, is the subject of a very limited usage. In 1859 and 1870 France de clared it to be contraband; and, according to M. Calco, the greater number of the secondary States have pronounced themselves in a like sense. England, on the other hand, during the war of 1870, con sidered that the character of coal should be deter mined by its destination, and though she refused to class it as a general rule with contraband merchan tise, vessels were prohibited from sailing from English ports with supplies directly consigned to the French fleet in the North Sea. Germany went further and remonstrated strongly against its expert to France being permitted by the English Govern ent. The claim was extravegant, but the nation which made it is not likely to exclude coal from its list of contraband. More recently, during the West African conference of 1884, Russia took occasion to dissent vigorously from the inclusion of coal amon articles contraband of war, and declared she would categorically refuse her consent to any article in any treaty or convention which would imply its recog

The view taken by England is unquestionably that which is most appropriate to the uses of the commodity with which it deals. Coal is employed so largely and for so great a number of innocent pur-poses, the whole daily life of many nations is so de pendent on it by its use for making gas, for driving locomotives, and for the conduct of the most or-dinary industries, that no sufficient presumption of an intended warlike use is afforded by the simpl

But, on the other han!, it is in the highest degree noxious when employed for certain purposes; and when its destination to such purposes can be shown to be extremely probable, as by its consignment to a Bermuda, or to a place used as a port of call or as a base of naval operations, it is difficult to see any reason for sparing it which would not apply to gunpowder. One article is as essential to a condition of naval offence as is the other.

Mr. Balfour, therefore, is well within the authorities when he declares "that coal would very frequently be contraband of war, but it should not be so understood under all circumstances." In this position he is sustained by the express orders of the British Government o some years standing. In the British Admiralty Manual of Prize Law, of 1888, it is stated that it is part of the perogative of the Crown during war to extend or reduce the list of articles to be held absolutely or conditionally contraband. The Manual then gives lists of articles which it states are "for the present" pronounced absolutely or conditionally contraband. The list of articles "conditionally contraband" embracer

Provisions and liquors fit for the consumption o army or navy; money; telegraphic materials, such as wire, porous cups, platinum, sulphuric acid, and as wire, porous cups, platinum, sulphurio acid, and gine; materials for the construction of a railway, as tron bars, sleepers, &c.; couls, hay, horses, regin, tal

Of course, this enumeration binds only British subjects, but it will be seen that it embraces a great many articles, besides coal, which, while generally used for commercial or industrial purposes, may be of great and essential value for military purposes. As to all of them, the use for which they are presumably intended will determine whether they are contraband or not. For instance, telegraph and railway materials for the use of the Spanish forces in the present war would be contraband and their shipment to beiligerent ports would be prohibited. The same is true of horses, so that Blanco cannot purchase mounts for his cavalry, or teams for his army wagons, from Canada or any of the English colonies. This being the case, we may congratulate ourselves on the fortu nate detention of the large number of mules that were on the point of departure from New Orleans last Thursday for Havana, when stopped by our authorities. These mules may yet reach Cubs, but if they do they will bear the

erand of "U.S." on them. I have not considered the effect of the treaty of 1795 between the United States and Spain on this question of contraband. Article XVI. of that treaty declares "horses with their furniture" to be contraband, while coal is pronounced by it not contraband. It is not clear, however, from its wording that article was made in contemplation of war between the two countries, and if it should be held that it was not it would be subject to the rule that war abrogates all treaties and articles except those made in contemplation of war. Besides, if it were held to be atill binding on the parties, it would not bind other nations not parties to it.

WASHINGTON, April 24.

THE CASE OF CAPT. HARY.

Imprisoned for Buther What the Whote Pankers Nation In Boing Now. The Cuban-American League has sent the sub oined letter to President McKinley, calling his attention to the case of Capt. J. D. Hart of

Philadelphia "There is an American eltiron, Capt. J. D. Hart of Philadelphia, serving a two years' sentence in the Eastern Penitentiary, Philadelphia, convicted of doing a little bit earlier than the rest of us what we are all doing to-day, that is, aiding the cause of Cuban freedom. "The Cuben-American League would urge upon you that at the earliest possible moment you would issue to Capt. Hart a pardon; and more,

that you would call him at once into the service of the Government in connection with transportation services in the Gulf and around Cuba. He can be of very great service to the cause. "Capt. Hart has suffered, is suffering, impris onmont, as did Capt. Nathan Hale in the earlier eriod in our history and for the same cause. His business has been broken up and his health mpaired, and it does seem to us that we but voice the unanimous wish of the American peo-

preciation he deserves and to help him to recoup his business and recover his losses "We believe in this matter that we are but calling to your mind the carrying out of what will be one of the pleasantest duties of your life."

ple when we urge that everything that can be

done be done at this time, to give him the ap-

FREIGHT ON THE ERIE CANAL. Varied Ameriment of Merchandise Carried on the State's Waterways.

The consideration of the canal question gaged a considerable part of the attention of the recent Albany Legislature during its brief see sion. The proposition to incur new indebtedness for the improvement of the State's water over the Erie Canal to the Federal Government was disapproved, and a renewal of the project to use a new motive power on the canals as a substitute for the present method of traction was postponed.

Very few persons have an accurate idea of the

diversity of the products carried in a year on the Erie canal and on the other waterways of the State which are ramifications of the Erie canal system. The annual tennage of articles moved on the canals of New York does not vary much from 3,600,000, and it is a fact necessary to the proper consideration of the canal quee tion that the tonnaire from west to east, from Buffalo to New York, is just about double the tonnage from east to west. Prior to the year 1893 the canal tonnage of the State was in excess of the present figures and averaged so for a number of years. The decrease is ascribable to the diminished demand for canal facilities by shippers, but to the fact that the policy of the State has been of late to restrict the number of canals and gradually to concentrate the canal business in the one main waterway, the Eric canal, disposing of the others by degrees, as authorized by a Constitutional amendment. This course is made necessary by the fact that the minor canals have always been run at a loss. The Eric canal retains its business partly because of the facilities it offers for through traffic, but more largely because, in recent years, the commerce of the lakes between Buffalo and the Western shipping points. Chicago, Milwaukec, Duluth, Cleveland, Detroit, and Sandusky, has increased enormously. A very general opinion prevails that a considerable main waterway, the Erie canal, disposing of the shipping points. Chicago, Milwaukee, Duluth, Cleveland, Detroit, and Sandusky, has increased enormously. A very general opinion prevails that a considerable portion of the business of New York's canals is in the moving of grain from the West, particularly corn and wheat. Such, however, is not the case. The chief item of transportation is lumber, to the amount on an average of more than 600,000 tons in a year, coal following second on the list in quantities very nearly as large, the amount of hard coal or anthracite carried West being five times greater than the amount of soft or bituaninous coal carried East; and to this fact is due the circumstance that the disparity between east-bound and west-bound business of the canals, now two to one, is not greater. Though western New York yields an enormous quantity of fruit of the very best quality, and the apple orchards of this portion of the State on or near the Erle canal are famous even in other countries, very little fruit is moved on the canals, and oddly, too, very little har—only 3,000 tons last year. Though the line of the canals is through the sail region about Syracuse, very little sailt, relatively, is moved on the canals, but last year there was a considerable tonnage of sugar and molasses, together with 180,000 tons of ice, only 52 of butter, very little petroleum, stone and clay in abundance, no hides to speak of, and no liquors, spirituous or fermented.

A Suggestion as to the Way.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir! The call of the President for volunteers puts on us who come within regulations as to age and health an urgent duty to respond, especially so on those who saw the justice and necessity for intervention and advocated it, oven to the extent of war. I am in that position; yet being a civilian with home re to enlist for the following reasons:

I believe the war will be of short duration. I believe an effective blockade of Cuban ports, or one important naval battle in favor of our country, will absolutely paralyze Spain and bring her army in Cuba face to face with starva tion, which of course would mean quick aur

I believe the United States regulars, aided by the various State National Guard regiments, are quite sufficient to free Cuba; that in fact an effective blockade on the one hand and a liberal distribution of equipment to the Cubar Army would bring matters to a speedy conclusion, needing little or no active service from our

Army would bring matters to a speedy conclusion, needing light or no active service from our troops.

I believe the National Guard will fill the requisition of 100,000 men, drilled, disciplined, men ready for immediate field duty, and consequently that ordinary civilians are not really needed and may be only in the way. If my boilef be built on insufficient knowledge of the forces for and against us, if unhappily the fight should be prolonged and stubborn because of climatic conditions or naval mishap, would it not be wise for the Government under a short, simple bill to give us civilians a chance by some such plan as this, which I think both prudent and fruitful:

Enlist us as a provisional guard for say nine months, or while the armories may be vacated by their present regiments, and have officers to instruct and drill us regularly in the armories. If the war were not ended by that time and there was a need for recruits, considerations of home and family should give way to obvious public duty, and there would be at hand armories full of men, no longer mere raw "awkward squads," but of considerable military efficiency, ready to join the regular army.

Buch a plan would do away with the necessity of leaving one's home months before one is of any use for military purposes, would obviate the sacrifice of immense private and public interests, would give opportunity for drilling and training under the best conditions and at lowest cost, and would, I am sure, be accepted by thousands who are willing to do their share of public duty while avoiding as far as possible any foolish waste of life or substance. It would also—no bad thing—lessen the theatric recruiting, which the war will excite. P. A. MOYNAHAN, 16 Exchange Place, New York, April 22.

To THE FORTOR OF THE SUN-SIT: A poculiar and not at all edifying spectacle was presented in front of

public property, on an important New York thorough-fare, on Thursday afternoon. I refer to Jefferson Market, in Sixth avenue, in front of which were piled, in confusion, household effects and utensils of the janitor of Jefferson Market, William Johnson, about whose tenure there is pending a legal controversy. Johnson is a colored man, and he was recently re-moved, or notified that he was removed, by the Commissioner of Correction, and another janitor was appointed in his place. Johnson disputes the legality of the removal, but with that phase of the matter courts and not private individuals have to do. It ap-pears that H. S. Kearney, the Commissioner of Build-ings, Gas, and Supplies, a relic of the "reform administration" under which he was a Subway Commissioner, undertook on Thursday to evict John Commissioner, undertook on Thursday to evict John and his chattels, and as is stated in The Sux of an indication of parties, it would not bind other nations not parties to it.

Washington, April 24.

The Butchmen and Their Wives.

To the Entron of The Sux—Sir: The three Dutch couples who bought bogs as described by C. M. C. in The Sux of last Monday were:

Gertruig and Cornelius:

Garra and Cleas;

Annual Hendricks.

Endiricks bought Su hope at 1.024 shillings; Annual is hogs for 361 Cornelius. S for 364, and Gertruig, 1 for 31; Cornelius. S for 364, and Gertruig, 1 for 11; Cornelius. S for 364, and Gertruig, 1 for 11; Riew Yone, April 19.

That is the right answer. The following correspondents have also successfully mated the Dutchmen and Dutchwomen and accurately enumerated the hogs: E. D., Sv. William H. Boboris. W. C. W., J. Ryan, Apollouine Angus Sari, John Sana, Barray, John Sana, Barray, and Sana, S. Gibbs. And John Sana, Barray, and Sana, S. Gibbs. And John Sana, Barray, and Sana, S. Gibbs. And John Sana, Barray, John Sana, Barray, John Sana, Court, and that is to respect it; and public officers should be especially circumspect in this. As The Survey of the Survey o son and his chattels, and as is stated in THE SUN of

THE WOMEN OF SPAIR.

Interesting Statistics Concerning Their Sector and Intellectual Condition. From the Chicago Times Herald.

A great deal has been written about Spanish men, but I think one may find a truer key to Spanish character by taking a glimpse of the misery of the Spanish women. I doubt if the Spanish woman is any better off than the Tarkish woman, and while American women are not clamoring for a conflict, the fact remains that the taking of Spain from the European geog-raphy might prove a great step in advance for the women of that land.

It appears from an official document which name my way the other day that but 2,696,618

the women of that land.

It appears from an official document which came my way the other day that but 2,636,618. Spanish women can read or write. This fraction is almost as big as the male army that knews its own language. It is a pilirial showing, but it is only the beginning of the table of female writchedness. The municipalities list 51,948 professional begrars who wear pettlecata. Then there are \$28,531 women who earn their living by working in the farm fields. There are \$10,596 women rated as day servants, who get but little more than board and shelter for their work, and in all the dying dynasty there are but 719,000 girls in the schools of any kind, public or private. There are twice as many female mendicants as male. The consus shows that 6,764,406 women have notther professions nor trades, and are altogether dependent upon chard habor at starvation weres.

The same lamentable condition of the Spanish woman is shown by a glance at another side of her life. The kingdom has but seventy-four women classed as literary writers. There are but seventy-eight women physicians in the mother country and all the provinces. The women school teachers number only 14,480, as compared with 24,612 men, but this does not include the nums, who are fortunate live in the most magnificent homes and seem never to bother their heads about the poerer sisters as their doors. The favorite resort for the grande softoras is San Sebastian, and the lives the careless Spanish women of fashion lead there during the summer is said to be a scandal over all Europe. There is scarcely a pretence at propriety or even ordinary conventionality. As in France, a majority of the young girls of the best families are educated in the convents. Their greatest accomplishment is embroidery, and they sit and sit and sit at their knitting until some man from an ancient and bankrushouse or a bull-raising plantation comes along and marries them. Club life is unknown. Marriages are celebrated very early in life, and but few people who get wearry of these ea

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUR-Sir: In a recent very rendable paper in the New England Mogazine on Jonathan Trumbull, the truly respectable Governor of Connecticut and Revolutionary worthy whom Washington immortalised by his familiar sobriquet of Brother Jouathan, a rare lustance of pleasantry on the part of the Father of his Country on record, I find an assertion made at random to enforce a point which is wholly irreconcilable with facts, This is so obviously a misstatement I am surprised is has not been corrected. In a paragraph on the nomenclature of the towns and villages of the colony and State the writer declares these names were "born on the soil." He admits justly the very proper resention of the old Indian names, so picturesque and characteristic, but adds that, except some names anglicized from the Dutch, none, as we recall, was from old England, as in Massachusette and elsewhere.

Now, certainly in colonial days it was the custom in New England for a century and a half to perpetuate the old English names on her soil of the homes of her fathers and founders. Historical names abound everywhere in New England, transferred from the mother country. Except the Indian, there were no Indigenous names; all others were English, except a few Irish, Weish, and Scotch; any map, geography or gazetteer of the New England States, "and especially Commedicut, proves that.

As a matter of curiosity I have made a list, omiting some names, perhaps, but which I believe is soberably complete: Bolton, Burifuston, Canterbury, Chester, Chatham, Colchester, Cornwall, Coventry, Derby, Enfield, Granby, Greenwich, Glastenbury, Guilford, Hartford, Kest, Litchfield, Lyme, Milford, Marlborough, Orford, Oxford, Norwich, New London, Preston, Pomfret, Roxbury, Reading, Salisbury, Scobland, Stephey, Saybrook, Stafford, Stamford, Stratsford, Norwalk, Thames, Tortington, Wapping, Woodstock, Windsor, Windham, Westminster. All these are derived distinctively from England, except two, Prestos and Scotland, from Scotland.

Honor to the Connecticut fathers and founders who brought their language and religion, law and polity, and also their nistorical nemenclature of cuties, towns, villages, rivers, from across the colons to their new homes in the old colony. menclature of the towns and villages of the colony

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUB-Sir: The Rev. Hen Swem is the pastor of the Second Baptist Church curlitte) of this city. It has 500 or 600 members, and Golden Love & Co. is the name of a firm here.

Adam Skeeter is the name of a well-known resident West Washington, and Miss Hitty McGinn is a resident of I street, N. E., this city. Maury Dove is a coal dealer, and Ges Oyster a but-

ter merchant. WASHINGTON, April 28. "Pink Whiskers,"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUK-Sir : Lieut.-Col. James Hamilton Lewis is getting a degree of advertising that entitles him to a place beside Col. Abe Slupsky that entities him to a place beside Col. Abe Slupsky and the Hon. Dink Botts. The Sun is usually very securate, and states that the Lieutenant-Colonel is critinarily known as "Ham" Lewis. I have had the distinguished honor of a personal acquaintance with the doughty warrior, and can assure you that he is more generally if not more favorably known as "Pink Whitakers".

SEATTLE.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Str: I have been attending meetings, &c., in Metropolitan Temple, Seventh avenue and Pourteenth street, for some time, and last night some one saked if they would float the American flag from the building. It was answered with, "It might not please some rjembers of said church," What is your opinion of same? NEW YORK, April 23. JOSEPH JORESON.

No Words Wasted.

From the St. James's Gazette. Wing Frederick William III. was very spare of words, as is well known, but one day he was told there was at Toplitz, where he was just drinking the waters, a Hungarian magnate still less talkative than the King. An opportunity for a meeting was soon managed, and the following conversation took place, the King beginning: "Bathing?" "Drinking." "Soldier?" beginning: "Bathing?" "Drinking." "
"Magnate." "Good." "Policeman?" Compliments."

Our Plying Squadron. From the Denver Times. When the Spanish vessels gather
Like the pirate fleets of yors,
When they seek to sweep the ocean
All along the Cuban shore;
When they strip themselves for action
And the eyes of nations stare,
You can bet the Flying Squadron And its fighter

WIII Be There. When the woe of war's upon us.
When destroyers plough the ses,
When Morro Castle crumbles
and the Cuban flag is free;
When the flash and flame of basile
Tints the balmy Southers sir,
You can bet the Flying Squadren
And its fighters
Will
There.

When the Spanish nation toppies
And its ruins rise in smoke,
When its starving, begger subjects
Cast away a cruel yoke,
When the ann of freedom penetrate
The cloud of Cuba's care,
You can bet the Flying Squadron
And its fighters
Will
He
These.

When the noise of battle schoes
In the annals of the past,
When the flag of poor old Cuba
is a freeman's flag at lest,
When the dove of peace is monarch,
When the sword becomes a share,
Even then our Flying Squadron
and its fighters
Will Will Bo There.

Adlest From the Cleveland Plain Deals

From the Claveland Flain Dealer Land of garlio and tortillas, Land of xebers and mantillas, Land of xebers and magnetic between Land of realers and of frikers, Land of Weller and of Sancho, Land of Weller and of Biancho, Land of Weller and Flaince, Land of dusty selection, Land of manners stiff and hanging, Land of Inabelia saughty, Land of Inabelia saug